

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 12937-011002	Application No. Unknown 10/807396
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b)) <i>03/24/2004</i>		Applicant Jeffry B. Skiba	
		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit Unknown 3731

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
<i>JMM</i>	AA	3,880,167	04-1975	Hardwick			
<i>JMM</i>	AB	3,892,240	07/1975	Park			
<i>JMM</i>	AC	5,405,354	04/1995	Sarrett			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner Signature <i>Jubian M. Woo</i>	Date Considered <i>4-26-07</i>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 12937-011002	Application No. <u>10/807996</u> New Application
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b)) <u>03/24/04</u>		Applicant Jeffrey B. Skiba et al.	
		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit Unknown <u>3731</u>

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
<u>JMM</u>	AA	5,522,820	06/1996	R.B. Caspari et al.			
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
	AL						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
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	AT	

Examiner Signature <u>Julian W. Moo</u>	Date Considered <u>4-26-07</u>
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		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit <u>3731</u> Unknown

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
<i>JMM</i>	AA	2,247,342	6/24/41	Brown			
	AB	2,738,790	3/20/56	Todt, Sr., et al.			
	AC	4,172,458	10/30/79	Pereyra			
	AD	4,890,615	1/2/90	Caspari et al.			
	AE	4,923,461	5/8/90	Caspari et al.			
	AF	4,957,498	9/18/90	Caspari et al.			
	AG	5,015,250	5/14/91	Foster			
	AH	5,085,661	2/4/92	Moss			
	AI	5,149,329	9/22/92	Richardson			
	AJ	5,152,769	10/6/92	Baber			
	AK	5,234,438	8/10/93	Semrad			
	AL	5,281,237	1/24/94	Gimpelson			
	AM	5,312,422	5/17/94	Trott			
	AN	6,074,403	6/13/00	Nord			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
<i>JMM</i>	AO	DT 25 32 242	2/10/77	Germany			X	
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
<i>JMM</i>	AT	Charles V. Menendez, M.D., <i>A Revived Ligature Carrier</i> , The American Journal of Surgery, Volume 115, pp. 583-584, 1968.
<i>JMM</i>	AU	Derek J. Byrne et al., <i>Highly selective vagotomy: use of a ligature carrier</i> , Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Vol. 72, pp. 9-10, 1990.

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Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AV	Fred S. Miyazaki, MD, <i>MIYA HOOK LIGATURE CARRIER FOR SACROSPINOUS LIGAMENT SUSPENSION</i> , The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Vol. 70, No. 2, August 1987.
	AW	G. Lichtenberger et al., <i>Laryngomikrochirurgische Laterofixation gelahmter Stimmlippen mit Hilfe eines neuen Nahtinstrumentes</i> , Laryngo-Rhino-Otol., 68(1989), pp. 678-682.
	AX	H. Courtenay Clarke, M.D., <i>Laparoscopy - New Instruments for Suturing and Ligation</i> , Fertility and Sterility, Vol. 23, No. 4, pp. 274-277, April 1972.
	AY	Harrith M. Hasson, M.D., <i>Suture Loop Techniques to Facilitate Microsurgical and Laparoscopic Procedures</i> , The Journal of Reproductive Medicine for the Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Volume 32, pp. 765-767, Number 10/October 1987.
	AZ	Linvatec 1994 Product Catalog, pp. 59 and 61, Linvatec Corporation (1994).
	AAA	Rene D. Esser, M.D., <i>Arthroscopic Meniscus Repair: The Easy Way</i> , The Journal of Arthroscopic and Related Surgery, 9(2), pp. 231-233, 1993.
	ABB	V. John Kilejian, <i>"The Suture": A New Suturing Instrument</i> , The Journal of Urology, Vol. 133, pp. 231-232, February 1985.
	ACC	

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered <u>4-28-07</u>
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U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
<i>JMM</i>	AA	5,562,685	10/8/96	Mollenauer et al.			
<i>JMM</i>	AB	5,709,692	1/20/98	Mollenauer et al.			
	AC						
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	AH						
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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

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							Yes	No
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	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

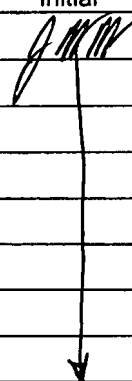
Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	
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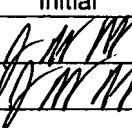
Examiner Signature <i>Julian M. Woo</i>	Date Considered <u>4-26-07</u>
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		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit <u>Unknown 3731</u>

U.S. Patent Documents

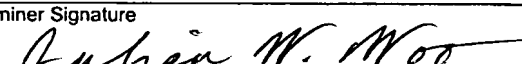
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	2,737,954	3/13/56	Knapp			
	AB	5,391,174	2/21/95	Weston			
	AC	5,562,685	10/8/96	Mollenauer et al.			
	AD	5,571,119	11/5/96	Atala			
	AE	5,709,692	1/20/98	Mollenauer et al.			
	AF	5,817,108	10/6/98	Poncet			
	AG	5,843,099	12/1/98	Nichols et al.			
	AH	6,113,610	9/5/00	Poncet			
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	528550	10/31/40	Great Britain				
	AM	WO 96/39946	12/19/96	PCT				
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

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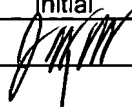
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		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit Unknown <u>3731</u>

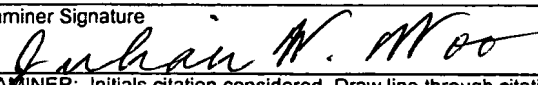
U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
<i>[Signature]</i>	AA	5,222,977	6/29/93	Esser	<i>[Signature]</i>		
<i>[Signature]</i>	AB	5,149,329	9/22/92	Richardson	<i>[Signature]</i>		
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
<i>[Signature]</i>	AL	WO 95/11630	5/4/95	WIPO	<i>[Signature]</i>			
	AM	DE 29722769	3/12/98	Germany			X (abstract)	
	AN	DE 2532242	2/10/77	Germany			X (abstract)	
	AO	WO 97/16121	5/9/97	WIPO				
<i>[Signature]</i>	AP	FR 401199	8/20/09	France	<i>[Signature]</i>			X

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner Signature <i>John M. Woo</i>	Date Considered <i>4-26-01</i>
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Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b)) <u>03/24/04</u>				Applicant Jeffrey B. Skiba et al.		Group Art Unit <u>Unknown 7791</u>	
				Filing Date March 24, 2004			
U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	659,422	10/09/1900	Shidler			
	AB	919,138	04/20/09	Drake et al.			
	AC	1,635,066	07/05/27	Wells			
	AD	1,815,725	07/21/31	Pilling et al.			
	AE	2,065,659	12/29/36	Cullen			
	AF	2,414,882	01/28/47	Longfellow			
	AG	2,593,622	04/22/52	Stanelle			
	AH	2,610,631	09/16/52	Calicchio			
	AI	2,880,728	04/07/59	Rights			
	AJ	3,036,482	05/29/62	Kenworthy et al.			
	AK	3,470,834	10/07/69	Bone			
	AL	3,470,875	10/07/69	Johnson			
	AM	3,638,653	02/01/72	Berry			
	AN	3,716,058	02/13/73	Tanner, Jr.			
	AO	3,840,017	10/08/74	Violante			
	AP	3,842,824	10/22/74	Neufeld			
	AQ	3,842,840	10/22/74	Schweizer			
	AR	3,871,379	03/18/75	Clarke			
	AS	3,890,975	06/24/75	McGregor			
	AT	3,901,244	08/26/75	Schweizer			
AU	3,946,740	03/30/76	Bassett				
AV	3,980,177	09/14/76	McGregor				
AW	3,990,619	11/09/76	Russell				
AX	4,161,951	07/24/79	Scanlan, Jr.				
AY	4,164,225	08/14/79	Johnson et al.				
AZ	4,224,947	09/30/80	Fukuda				

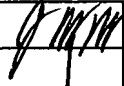
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<i>J. Skiba</i>	BA	4,235,238	11/25/80	Ogiu et al.		
	BB	4,326,531	04/27/82	Shimonaka		
	BC	4,384,406	05/24/83	Tischlinger		
	BD	4,448,194	05/15/84	DiGiovanni et al.		
	BE	4,493,323	01/15/85	Albright et al.		
	BF	4,500,024	02/19/85	DiGiovanni et al.		
	BG	4,509,516	04/09/85	Richmond		
	BH	4,512,344	04/23/85	Barber		
	BI	4,535,768	08/20/85	Hourahane et al.		
	BJ	4,580,563	04/08/86	Gross		
	BK	4,590,929	05/27/86	Klein		
	BL	4,596,249	06/24/86	Freda et al.		
	BM	4,602,635	07/29/86	Mulhollan et al.		
	BN	4,621,639	11/11/86	Transue et al.		
	BO	4,621,640	11/11/86	Mulhollan et al.		
	BP	4,633,869	01/06/87	Schmieding		
	BQ	4,641,652	02/10/87	Hutterer et al.		
	BR	4,643,178	02/17/87	Nastari et al.		
	BS	4,662,068	05/05/87	Polonsky		
	BT	4,716,893	01/05/88	Fischer et al.		
	BU	4,723,546	02/09/88	Zagorski		
	BV	4,724,840	02/16/88	McVay et al.		
	BW	4,739,751	04/26/88	Sapega et al.		
	BX	4,741,330	05/03/88	Hayhurst		
	BY	4,778,468	10/18/88	Hunt et al.		
	BZ	4,779,616	10/25/88	Johnson		
	CA	4,787,377	11/29/88	Laboureau		
	CB	4,790,312	12/13/88	Capuano, Sr. et al.		

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		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit <u>3731</u> Unknown

	CC	4,881,537	11/21/89	Henning		
	CD	4,890,615	01/02/90	Caspari et al.		
	CE	4,899,743	02/13/90	Nicholson et. al.		
	CF	4,923,461	05/08/90	Caspari et al.		
	CG	4,935,027	06/19/90	Yoon		
	CH	4,950,285	08/17/90	Wilk		
	CI	4,957,498	09/18/90	Caspari et al.		
	CJ	5,053,047	10/01/91	Yoon		
	CK	5,085,661	02/04/92	Moss		
	CL	5,100,418	03/31/92	Yoon et al.		
	CM	5,120,318	06/09/92	Nallapareddy		
	CN	5,123,913	06/23/92	Wilk et al.		
	CO	5,149,329	09/22/92	Richardson		
	CP	5,174,087	12/29/92	Bruno		
	CQ	5,178,629	01/12/93	Kammerer		
	CR	5,181,919	01/26/93	Bergman et al.		
	CS	5,201,744	04/13/93	Jones		
	CT	5,211,650	05/18/93	Noda		
	CU	5,217,471	06/08/93	Burkhart		
	CV	5,217,486	06/08/93	Rice et al.		
	CW	5,222,508	06/29/93	Contarini		
	CX	5,224,955	07/06/93	West		
	CY	5,250,054	10/05/93	Li		
	CZ	5,254,126	10/19/93	Filipi et al.		
	DA	5,259,846	11/09/93	Granger et al.		
	DB	5,266,075	11/30/93	Clark et al.		
	DC	5,269,783	12/14/93	Sander		
	DD	5,269,786	12/14/93	Morgan		
	DE	5,282,809	02/01/94	Kammerer et al.		



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DF	5,306,280	04/26/94	Bregen et al.	
DG	5,312,422	05/17/94	Trott	
DH	5,327,896	07/12/94	Schmieding	
DI	5,334,198	08/02/94	Hart et al.	
DJ	5,356,419	10/18/94	Chow	
DK	5,364,408	11/15/94	Gordon	
DL	5,372,604	12/13/94	Trott	
DM	5,382,257	01/17/95	Lewis et al.	
DN	5,391,170	02/21/95	McGuire et al.	
DO	5,391,173	02/21/95	Wilk	
DP	5,393,302	02/28/95	Clark et al.	
DQ	5,409,494	04/25/95	Morgan	
DR	5,441,502	08/15/95	Bartlett	
DS	5,441,507	08/15/95	Wilk	
DT	5,447,512	09/05/95	Wilson et al.	
DU	5,449,367	09/12/95	Kadry	
DV	5,456,246	10/10/95	Schmieding et al.	
DW	5,464,425	11/07/95	Skiba	
DX	5,466,243	11/14/95	Schmieding et al.	
DY	5,496,331	03/05/96	Xu et al.	
DZ	5,501,688	03/26/96	Whiteside et al.	
EA	5,520,696	05/28/96	Wenstrom, Jr.	
EB	5,520,703	05/28/96	Essig et al.	
EC	5,522,820	06/04/96	Caspari et al.	
ED	5,527,322	06/18/96	Klein et al.	
EE	5,545,170	08/13/96	Hart	
EF	5,549,613	08/27/96	Goble et al.	
EG	5,549,618	08/27/96	Fleenor et al.	
EH	5,549,636	08/27/96	Li	

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	EI	5,554,171	09/10/96	Gattorna et al.		
	EJ	5,562,683	10/08/96	Chan		
	EK	5,562,687	10/08/96	Chan		
	EL	5,562,696	10/08/96	Nobles et al.		
	EM	5,565,122	10/15/96	Zinnbauer et al.		
	EN	5,569,269	10/29/96	Hart et al.		
	EO	5,571,090	11/05/96	Sherts		
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Examiner Signature 	Date Considered <u>4-26-07</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 12937-011002	Application No. <u>10/807396</u> New Application
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b)) <u>03/24/04</u>		Applicant Jeffrey B. Skiba et al.	
		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit Unknown <u>3731</u>

<i>[Handwritten mark]</i>	FL	5,846,254	12/08/98	Schulze et al.			
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	FN	5,860,983	01/19/99	Wenstrom, Jr.			
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	GI	6,146,387	11/14/00	Trott et al.			
	GJ						
	GK						
	GL						

Examiner Signature <i>[Signature: Julian M. Moo]</i>	Date Considered <u>4-26-07</u>
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		Filing Date March 24, 2004	Group Art Unit <u>Unknown 3731</u>

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
<i>[Signature]</i>	GM	1034728A	08/15/83	Soviet Union			X (Abstract)	
<i>[Signature]</i>	GN	95/02363	01/26/95	PCT				
<i>[Signature]</i>	GO	99/12480	03/18/99	PCT				
	GP							
	GQ							
	GR							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	GS	
	GT	
	GU	
	GV	

Examiner Signature <i>Julian W. Woo</i>	Date Considered <i>4-26-07</i>
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
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03/24/04

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12937-011002

SERIAL NO.
~~Unknown~~ 10/807396

APPLICANT(S)
Jeffrey B. Skiba, et al

FILING DATE
March 24, 2004

GROUP
~~To Be Assigned~~ 2731

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	6,039,753	03/21/2000	Meislin			

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						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER *John W. Woo*

DATE CONSIDERED *4-26-07*

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
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Jeffrey B. Skiba, et al

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*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
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	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

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EXAMINER

Jubian W. Woo

DATE CONSIDERED

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Jeffrey B. Skiba, et al

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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